

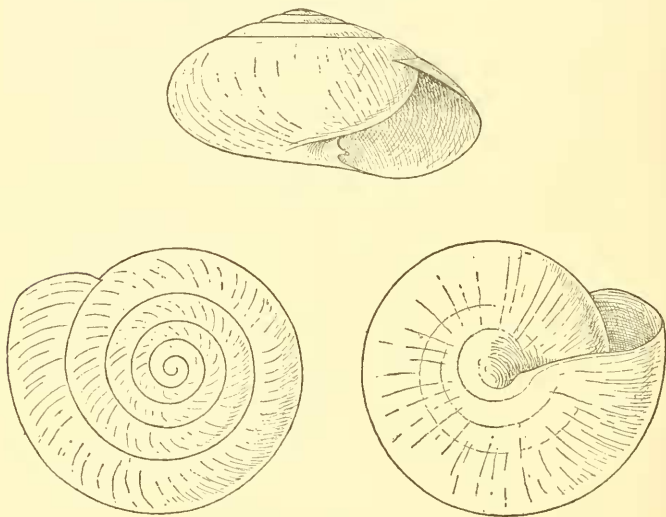
ON *DESPÆNA CINNAMOMEA*, n.sp., AND TYPE OF A NEW SUB-GENUS, *CHERSODESPÆNA*, WITH NOTES ON SOME ALLIED FORMS.

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DESPÆNA (*CHERSODESPÆNA*, n.subgen.) *CINNAMOMEA*, n.sp.

Testa depressa, tenuis, nitida, spira parum elevata, cinnamomea; anfractus $5\frac{1}{2}$, regulariter et mediocriter accrescentes, plano-convexi, sutura sub-impressa, ultimus basi convexiusculus, callo tenui nitido



Despæna cinnamomea, n.sp.

obductus, juxta columellam excavatus; apertura angulato lunaris, margine columellari plica dentiformi intrante munito; perist. simplex, tenue. Alt. 16, diam. max. 8.75 mm.

Hab.—Between Ayabamba and Santa Rosa, Ecuador.

The only other species of *Despæna* that I am acquainted with from Ecuador is *D. Cousini*, Jousseau (described as a *Proserpinella*). That species, however, is of a yellow colour and smaller in size, though the number of whorls appears to be the same, whilst, from the original figure, the shells appear to differ considerably in outline. I have ventured to propose a new subgenus—of which the above-described species may be taken as the type—to include the Continental forms, which differ from those found in the West Indian Islands in the

absence of lamellæ, or teeth, within the outer wall of the aperture. The type-specimen of the new species is in the British Museum.

Since Pfeiffer gave an account of the Proserpinacea¹ several authors have added to our knowledge of the group, so that a brief summary of their work may not be out of place here.

The genus *Proserpina* was renamed by Mr. Newton² on the ground that there is already a *Proserpinus* of Hübner, earlier in date. The species of *Despæna* listed by Pfeiffer are *nitida*, Gray; *linguifera*, Jonas; *pisum*, Adams; *globulosa*, Orb.; *depressa*, Orb.; *bidentata*, Adams; and *Swifti*, Bland. In addition to the species now described we have to chronicle *D. Cousini*, Jousseau,³ from Ecuador; that author described the form as a *Proserpinella*, but it appears to really belong here. It may be noted that Higgins gave⁴ the additional locality of Ecuador for *D. Swifti*, but probably this was due to an error of identification.

Specimens of the rare *Cyane Blandiana*, collected by Professor Steere in Peru, are in the British Museum; and a second species of the genus, *C. Orbignyi*, has been described by Mons. Ancy⁵ from Bolivia.

A third species of *Ceres*, *C. Nelsoni*, from Mexico, has been added by Dr. Dall⁶ to that interesting genus.

A note on two genera, *Calybium* and *Heudeia*, which appear to link the *Despæna* group with the Helicinidæ, may be of interest. There appears to be only one species of each genus known, and the references are as follows:—

HEUDEIA SETCHUANENSIS (Heude).

Helicina Setchuanensis, Heude: *Notè Moll. terr. Fleuve Bleu*, 1885, p. 98, pl. xxiv, fig. 16.

Heudei Setchuanensis, Heude: *Crosse, Journ. de Conch.*, tom. xxxiii (1885), p. 44; Möllendorff, *Jahresb. Deutsch. Malak. Ges.*, Bd. xiii (1886), p. 101; *Crosse, Journ. de Conch.*, tom. xl (1892), p. 287, pl. iv, figs. 3–3d.

Hab.—Tchen-Kéou (Heude).

CALYBIUM MASSIEI, Morlet.

Calybium Massiei, Morlet: *Journ. de Conch.*, tom. xxxix (1891), p. 316; *op. cit.*, tom. xl (1892), p. 327, pl. viii, figs. 2–2d; *Crosse, t.c.*, p. 286.

Hab.—Laos (Morlet).

Both these interesting forms are operculated, and so show relationship with the Helicinidæ, whilst the presence of lamellæ on the parietal

¹ *Mon. Pneum.*, Suppl. iii, pp. 295–298.

² *Cat. Edws. Coll. Brit. Oligocene and Eocene Moll. in Brit. Mus.*, 1891, p. 255.

³ *Bull. Soc. Zool. France*, tom. xii, p. 181, pl. iii, figs. 15, 16.

⁴ *Proc. Zool. Soc.*, 1872, p. 687.

⁵ *Naturaliste*, 1892, p. 178.

⁶ *Nautilus*, xii (July, 1896), p. 27.

wall recalls *Despæna*. Until their anatomy is known it must remain uncertain whether their true relationship be with the one or the other, or, indeed, whether *Despæna* and *Helicina* do not really belong to one varying stock, of which these Asiatic genera may be the more primitive forms.

But little seems to be known of the fossil ancestry of *Despæna*, etc. *Dimorphoptychia Arnouldi*, Michaud, from the Paris Basin, appears to be nearly related to *Heudeia* and *Calybrium*; a single species of *Despæna*, under the manuscript name of *Woodwardi*, has also been recorded from the Bembridge Beds of the Isle of Wight by Mr. Newton.¹

¹ Since this paper was written and read, Mr. Newton has kindly called my attention to the description by Moore (Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc., vol. xxvii, 1867, p. 549, pl. xv, figs. 3, 4) of a shell from the Lias under the name of *Proserpina Lyelli*. Judging from the description and figure, I fancy the species does not belong to this group: it may very possibly be a Helicoid related to some of the larger species known to-day from South America.